REMARKS

The present application was filed on July 25, 2003 with claims 1-23. Claims 1, 17, 19-20, 22, and 23 have been amended. Claims 1, 17, and 23 are the pending independent claims.

In the outstanding Office Action dated August 3, 2006, the Examiner: (i) rejected claims 19, 20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph; (ii) rejected claims 1-7, 13-20 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,411,974 to Graham et al. (hereinafter "Graham"); and (iii) rejected claims 8-12, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,014,680 to Sato et al. (hereinafter "Sato").

In regard to the rejection of claims 19, 20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph, Applicants have amended dependent claims 19, 20, and 22 to clarify the subject matter of such claims.

In regard to the rejection of claims 1-7, 13-20, and 23 under §102(b) as being anticipated by Graham, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 17, and 23 to clarify the subject matter of such claims. Further, Applicants submit that Graham does not anticipate the claims as recited.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of constructing one or more message parsing rules in accordance with a user and a machine, comprising the steps of obtaining message data representing past messages and generating one or more message parsing rules by a process based on the obtained message data, and at least one of one or more existing rule templates and user selection and classification of at least a portion of a message, wherein the one or more parsing rules are storable for access by a rule-based parsing system. Independent claims 17 and 23 recite additional aspects of the present invention having similar limitations.
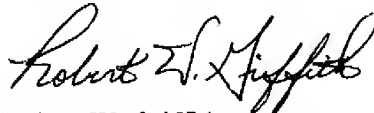
The examiner argues that Graham teaches a method of generating parsing rules. Applicants respectfully disagree. Graham teaches a method of extracting desired contents from multiple heterogeneous textual streams to provide normalized data, through user-selection of stored parse rules that correspond to the textual streams. *See* Graham, Col. 12, ln. 27-43. The Graham disclosure involves the selection and application of parse rules on textual data, and makes no mention of generating message parsing rules. Furthermore, Graham does not obtain message data representing past messages, nor does Graham use these past messages to generate parse rules. For at least these

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reasons, independent claims 1, 17, and 23 are not anticipated by Graham. It follows that dependent claims 2-7, 13-16, and 18-20, are not anticipated by Graham due to their dependence on claims 1 and 17. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 1-7, 13-20, and 23 is respectfully requested.

In regard to the rejection of claims 8-12, 21, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham in view of Sato, Applicants respectfully assert that the combined teaching of Graham and Sato fails to render such claims as obvious. Sato discloses a method of generating a structured document by extracting keywords from a non-structured document. The Sato disclosure relates to document restructuring while the claims of the present invention relate to the management of event messages. Even without this basic difference in content, Sato fails to remedy the deficiencies of Graham described above with respect to the independent claims. Therefore, the combined teaching of Graham and Sato fails to provide the requisite support for an obviousness rejection with respect to claims 8-12, 21, and 22. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 8-12, 21, and 22 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request withdrawal of the §112, §102(b), and §103(a) rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

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